Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A unitary subcutaneous implantable cardioverter-defibrillator comprising:

(A) a long thin housing with first and second ends that is curved in a shape of a patient's rib wherein the housing contains a source of electrical energy, a capacitor, and operational circuitry that senses the presence of potentially fatal heart rhythms;

(B) cardioversion/defibrillation electrodes located at the ends of the housing;

(C) means for delivering electrical cardioversion-defibrillation energy at an amplitude in the range of from about [[3]] 800 volts to about 2000 volts, said means configured to deliver said electrical cardioversion-defibrillation energy when the operational circuitry senses a potentially fatal heart rhythm; and

(D) the absence of a transvenous, intracardiac, epicardial, or subcutaneous electrode.

2-39. (cancelled)

40. (previously presented) A unitary subcutaneous cardioverter-defibrillator with an electrically active canister for minimally invasive implantation, comprising:

a subcutaneously implantable canister comprising a sterilizable biocompatible housing enclosing and containing cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry interfaceable through the biocompatible housing, the biocompatible housing formed into a partially curved surface along a longitudinal axis; and

a pair of electrodes formed on opposite and facing ends of the biocompatible housing, said electrodes being spaced apart along the longitudinal axis and electrically interfaced via one or more internal conductors to the cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry, said pair of electrodes configured to deliver an electrical therapy to the heart of a patient therebetween.

41. (cancelled)

42. (previously presented) A unitary cardioversion-defibrillation device with an electrically conductive housing for subcutaneous implantation, comprising:

a hermetically sealed housing containing cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry, the housing being curved along a longitudinal axis and having a substantially electrically insulated outer surface; and

first and second electrodes disposed on opposite and facing ends of the housing, the cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry being responsive to an autonomously detected arrhythmic condition, the electrodes being electrically connected via one or more internal conductors to the cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry.

43. (cancelled)

44. (previously presented) An implantable unitary subcutaneous cardioverter-defibrillator with an electrically active canister, comprising:

an implantable canister providing a curved housing enclosing and containing cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry and sense circuitry, the housing being curved along a longitudinal axis; and

at least three electrodes formed on the housing, wherein first and second electrodes are disposed on opposite and facing ends of the housing and are electrically interfaced via one or more conductors to the cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry, the cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry configured to deliver an electrical therapy via the first and second electrodes to the heart of a patient responsive to an autonomously detected arrhythmic condition, wherein at least a third electrode is disposed on the housing and is configured to sense an electrical characteristic of a patient, wherein the sense circuitry and cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry are programmable.

45. (previously presented) An implantable unitary subcutaneous cardioverter-defibrillator according to claim 44, further comprising;

a removable core operational member containing the cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry separate and interchangeably from the housing and providing a plurality of connectors; and

the housing operationally disposed to receive the core operational member via a plurality of matching connectors.

46-49. (cancelled).

50. (previously presented) An implantable unitary subcutaneous cardioverter-defibrillator inducing cardiac fibrillating episodes, comprising:

an implantable canister providing a housing enclosing and containing cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry, the housing being curved along a longitudinal axis, the housing having first and second ends, the first end being thicker than the second end;

a pair of electrodes formed on opposite and facing ends of the housing and electrically interfaced via one or more conductors to the cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry to deliver an electrical therapy to the heart of a patient responsive to an autonomously detected arrhythmic condition; and

induction circuitry integral to the cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry which generates low amplitude voltage on a T-wave of an ECG via the pair of electrodes responsive to the cardioversion-defibrillation circuitry.

51-52. (Cancelled)